

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Franklin Ducheneaux retires

Effective June 30, Franklin Ducheneaux, our Washington, D.C., lobbyist/consultant, retired after serving many years as our lobbyist/consultant. Franklin and his wife, Ernestine, will move to Montana and become ranchers.

Frank served on the House Interior Committee on Indian Affairs back in the early '70s and was one of the first contacts we made in our Restoration efforts. He touched and advised on every Indian issue that passed through the House for the past 30 years.

In 1988, as a key staff member of the House Committee on Indian Affairs, Frank was largely responsible for writing the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA), which is even today the basic law governing the way the federal, state, and tribal governments regulate, and tribes conduct, Indian gaming.

Frank helped us in many ways. One of the most significant was his bird-dogging through Congress a bill in 1991 that made the property on which Chinook Winds now stands reservation land eligible for gaming.

Frank took over when Forrest Gerard retired as the tribe's lobbyist/



Chairman Delores Pigsley

consultant several years ago. Before starting his consulting business, Forrest served as assistant secretary of the Interior and before that was a staffer for the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. Forrest played a major role for the committee in the restoration of the Siletz Tribe in 1977. He worked very closely with Sen. Mark Hatfield on Indian issues.

As you can see, we have had high-caliber consultants in Washington, D.C., to assist us with our tribal issues. With the retirement of both Forrest

and Franklin, we've had need to fill the vacuum with consultants of comparable expertise.

New Lobbyist/Consultant Appointed

The Tribal Council selected five firms for interviews from among several applicants. By unanimous vote, council appointed Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Enderson and Perry, LLP of Washington, D.C., as our new consultants.

The Sonosky firm will be of special value because of its close and longstanding relationships with members and staff of key congressional committees. It's often called on to present expert testimony to these committees. It's legislative activity also will focus on federal appropriations, assisting the Siletz Tribe in developing strategies in seeking allocation of federal funds for our tribal priorities, and other assigned activities.

The Sonosky firm is no stranger to the Siletz Tribe. The firm assisted us in resolving our dispute with the National Indian Gaming Commission and more recently, has been providing consultative services on our history research project.

The lawyers of the Sonosky firm have outstanding legal backgrounds and experiences and are dedicated to protecting the rights and advancing the legal objectives of the Siletz Tribe.

Chinook Winds' Eighth Anniversary Celebration

It's hard to believe, but Chinook Winds has been in business now for

eight years – eight increasingly productive years.

On June 21, we celebrated another anniversary with a small ceremony, hors d'oeuvres, and cake, among other casino activities.

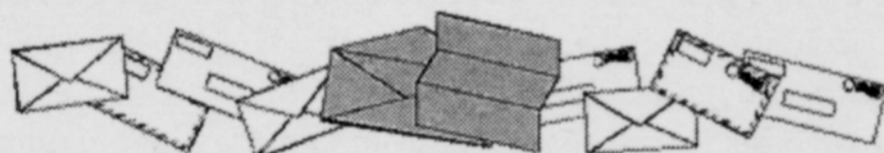
Siletz Soltice Dances

We often have reported in *Siletz News* and *Nesika Illahee* about our traditional cultural programs. That's because while our tribe operates a modern casino and encourages our members to be computer literate and to keep abreast of the technological age, we place high value and take pride in the way we have been preserving our heritage.

For three nights we hold our Soltice ceremonial dances in our Dance House. Bud and Cheryl Lane are to be commended for the role they play in hosting the dances and ensuring that the correct protocol is followed. They have encouraged and upheld our traditions.

To further our cultural preservation efforts, the Tribal Council voted unanimously to hire Bud Lane on a full-time basis to continue teaching the native language, basket weaving and gathering, regalia making, and other cultural skills.

Up to now, Bud had been teaching these skills on a voluntary basis while fully employed by Georgia Pacific. It was Bud who, with the involvement of other tribal members, coordinated the construction of the Dance House.



To the editor:

Our thanks to the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians.

During this last quarter, the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund donated \$2,112 to the Siletz Valley Friends of the Library. Your gift allowed us to purchase large-print books for the Siletz Library. Thank you for making this possible.

Those of you who use the current library probably realize the building needs to be replaced. SVFOL (Siletz Valley Friends of the Library) has committed the energies of its members to designing a building that will be used and enjoyed by all of us living in and around Siletz.

Your new Siletz Library comes closer to reality each month. The city of Siletz granted the lot just north of the post office for the new library. Rich Turi, architect of many Oregon libraries, recently completed drafting a building plan. If you would like to know more, please come to the SVFOL monthly meetings at Siletz City Hall (contact our Siletz librarian at 541-444-2855 for dates and time).

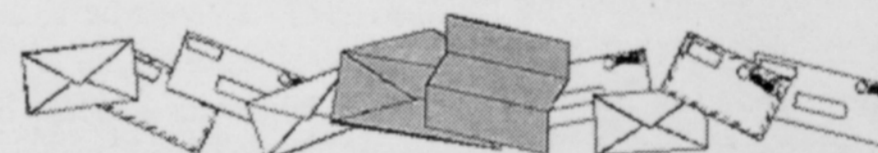
SVFOL is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation whose purpose is to promote the growth and quality of our local Siletz Library, to participate in selected projects benefiting Siletz and the surrounding area, and to raise money to build a new library. We must rely on grants and other fund-raising activities to supply the money for the new library (contributions to SVFOL are tax deductible). If you want to help raise money for the library, please join us as a member.

Thank you again for granting the funds for the large-print books. Tell your family and friends to come check one out!

Sincerely,

Lorraine Rich, Alice McCain, Karen Carlson, Jan Christensen, Sunshine Keck (Grant Committee members)

Sally Jennings, Board President



To the editor:

Could you please run this article about blood quantum by a well-known Indian rights activist so our tribal members can see why I'm opposed to our blood-degree requirements.

We terminated ourselves for money in the 1950s and I don't want us to terminate ourselves again because we are afraid that the Indian descendants will get money we want because they don't meet the blood degree, and if we change to descendency they will rob us if they become tribal members.

To me, the issue becomes greed for money while we are alive and to heck with the tribe after we are gone and even worse, living tribal descendants can only be Indians until they turn 18 years of age. Seriously think about this and the future of our tribe.

Bensell Breon

Editor's note: See the article Bensell refers to on page 13.